

CLAIMS

1. A method of controlling operation of a detonator which includes the steps of arming the detonator and, if at least one defined signal is not received by the detonator within a predetermined period after arming the detonator, of placing
5 the detonator in a known safe state.
2. A method according to claim 1 wherein the at least one defined signal is selected from a blast signal which causes the detonator to fire, and an arm-hold signal which causes the timing of the predetermined period to be recommenced.
- 10 3. A detonator which includes an energy storage device, an energy discharge circuit and a control unit which, after the detonator has been armed, in the absence of receipt by the control unit of at least one defined signal from a blast controller, enables the energy discharge circuit thereby to cause energy to be discharged from the storage device.